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Agenda item 14 (a)
Social and human rights questions: advancement of women

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Léo Mérorès (Haiti), on the basis of informal consultations

Future work to strengthen the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions, including resolutions 1999/54 of 29 July 1999, 2000/24 of 28 July 2000, 2001/40 of 26 July 2001 and 2003/57 of 24 July 2003, on the strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Board of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its fourth session[1] and of the recommendations and decisions contained therein,

Also taking note of the report of the Director of the Institute, entitled "Comprehensive report and future projections for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women", contained in the report of the Executive Board,[2]

1. *Reaffirms* the specific mandate of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to conduct research and training for gender equality and the empowerment of women as a central focal point for research and training on gender issues within the United Nations system;

2. *Requests* the Institute to strengthen its training and research activities, as appropriate, in accordance with its statute and with its strategic framework 2008-2011, adopted by the Executive Board in 2007, and in line with all relevant United Nations resolutions related, inter alia, to the advancement of women and gender equality in order to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as follows:

[1] E/2007/79.
[2] Ibid., annex I.

07-43700 (E) 250707

(a) To intensify its training activities on the basis of lessons learned and replicate best practices and to continue to implement innovative methods of work, in order to have a concrete impact on policies and programmes at all levels and respond to both existing and future challenges, particularly in developing countries, including least developed countries in all regions;

(b) To further coordinate its activities and to develop its programme of work in collaboration with all relevant United Nations bodies and to strengthen its cooperation with Governments and national mechanisms of gender equality, as well as civil society, including the non-governmental organizations, the private sector and academia;

(c) To increase its cooperation with the Commission on the Status of Women and with other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, particularly in bringing to their attention gender concerns in emerging issues;

3. *Stresses* the critical importance of voluntary financial contributions by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to enable it to carry out its mandate;

4. *Requests* the Institute to continue its efforts, including by developing a medium- and long-term resource mobilization strategy, so that current and potential donors devote a greater interest to the core budget and consider commitments to multi-year funding;

5. *Invites* States to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

6. *Decides* to continue considering these issues, and requests the Secretary-General to present a report on the implementation of the present resolution during its substantive session in 2008.